

## CLAIMS

1. A content use device for using composite content recorded  
on a recording medium, the composite content including  
5 a plurality of pieces of content, the content use device  
comprising:

an acquisition unit operable to acquire a designation  
of one of the plurality of pieces of content;

10 a judgment unit operable to judge whether the  
designated piece of content is usable, based on contract  
information relating to use of the designated piece of  
content;

15 a selection unit operable to select one of the  
plurality of pieces of content, according to a result of  
the judgment by the judgment unit; and

an output unit operable to output the selected piece  
of content.

2. The content use device of Claim 1,

20 wherein the selection unit selects the designated  
piece of content if the designated piece of content is  
judged as being usable, and selects an alternative piece  
of content instead of the designated piece of content if  
the designated piece of content is judged as being not  
25 usable, the alternative piece of content being included

in the composite content in correspondence with the designated piece of content.

3. The content use device of Claim 2,

5            wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes a content identifier for identifying the designated piece of content and an alternative content identifier for identifying the alternative piece of content, in correspondence with each  
10 other,

            the selection unit selects the designated piece of content by extracting the content identifier from the composite content if the designated piece of content is judged as being usable, and selects the alternative piece  
15 of content by extracting the alternative content identifier corresponding to the content identifier from the composite content if the designated piece of content is judged as being not usable, and

            the output unit reads the piece of content identified  
20 by the extracted content identifier or alternative content identifier from the recording medium, and outputs the read piece of content.

4. The content use device of Claim 1,

25            wherein the judgment unit acquires the contract

information, and judges whether the designated piece of content is usable based on the acquired contract information.

5 5. The content use device of Claim 4,

wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes a license identifier for identifying the contract information, and

the judgment unit includes:

10 a contract information storage unit operable to prestore the license identifier and the contract information in correspondence with each other;

an identifier extraction unit operable to extract the license identifier from the composite content; and

15 a judging unit operable to read the contract information corresponding to the extracted license identifier from the contract information storage unit, and judge whether the designated piece of content is usable based on the read contract information.

20

6. The content use device of Claim 4,

wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes a content identifier for identifying the designated piece of content and a license

25 identifier for identifying the contract information, in

correspondence with each other, and

the judgment unit includes:

a contract information storage unit operable to  
prestore the license identifier and the contract

5 information in correspondence with each other;

an identifier extraction unit operable to extract  
the license identifier corresponding to the content  
identifier for identifying the designated piece of content,  
from the composite content; and

10 a judging unit operable to read the contract  
information corresponding to the extracted license  
identifier from the contract information storage unit,  
and judge whether the designated piece of content is usable  
based on the read contract information.

15

7. The content use device of Claim 4,

wherein the composite content recorded on the  
recording medium includes a content identifier for  
identifying the designated piece of content, and

20 the judgment unit includes:

a contract information storage unit operable to  
prestore the content identifier and the contract  
information in correspondence with each other;

25 an identifier extraction unit operable to extract  
the content identifier from the composite content; and

a judging unit operable to read the contract information corresponding to the extracted content identifier from the contract information storage unit, and judge whether the designated piece of content is usable  
5 based on the read contract information.

8. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the composite content recorded on the recording medium includes playback path information  
10 showing a correspondence between the designated piece of content and a preceding piece of content that is to be output immediately before the designated piece of content, and

after the output unit outputs the preceding piece  
15 of content, the acquisition unit extracts the playback path information from the composite content, and acquires the designation in accordance with the extracted playback path information.

20 9. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of pieces of content include a plurality of pieces of angle content that are used for multi-angle switching,

the acquisition unit acquires the designation of one  
25 of the plurality of pieces of angle content,

the judgment unit judges whether the designated piece of angle content is usable, based on the contract information, and

the selection unit selects a group of outputtable  
5 pieces of angle content according to the result of the judgment by the judgment unit, and selects one piece of angle content from the selected group, and

the output unit outputs the selected piece of angle content.

10

10. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of pieces of content include a plurality of pieces of auxiliary content that are each made up of any of audio data and subtitle data output together  
15 with video data,

the acquisition unit acquires the designation of one of the plurality of pieces of auxiliary content,

the judgment unit judges whether the designated piece of auxiliary content is usable, based on the contract  
20 information,

the selection unit selects a group of outputtable pieces of auxiliary content according to the result of the judgment by the judgment unit, and selects one piece of auxiliary content from the selected group, and

25 the output unit outputs the selected piece of

auxiliary content.

11. The content use device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of pieces of content each  
5 contain an encrypted digital work, and

the output unit decrypts an encrypted digital work  
contained in the selected piece of content, and outputs  
the decrypted digital work.

10 12. A content use method used in a content use device for  
using composite content recorded on a recording medium,  
the composite content including a plurality of pieces of  
content, the content use method comprising steps of:

acquiring a designation of one of the plurality of  
15 pieces of content;

judging whether the designated piece of content is  
usable, based on contract information relating to use of  
the designated piece of content;

selecting one of the plurality of pieces of content,  
20 according to a result of the judgment by the judgment step;  
and

outputting the selected piece of content.

13. A computer program used in a computer for using composite  
25 content recorded on a recording medium, the composite

content including a plurality of pieces of content, the computer program comprising program code operable to cause the computer to perform steps of:

5 acquiring a designation of one of the plurality of pieces of content;

judging whether the designated piece of content is usable, based on contract information relating to use of the designated piece of content;

10 selecting one of the plurality of pieces of content, according to a result of the judgment by the judgment step; and

outputting the selected piece of content.

14. The computer program of Claim 13 being stored on a  
15 computer-readable storage medium.

15. The computer program of Claim 13 being transmitted via a carrier wave.

20 16. A recording medium on which composite content including a plurality of pieces of content is recorded,

wherein the composite content includes a piece of content and an alternative piece of content in correspondence with each other, the alternative piece of  
25 content being to be output instead of the piece of content



if the piece of content is not usable.

17. The recording medium of Claim 16,

wherein the composite content includes control  
5 information which includes, in correspondence with each  
other, content information showing the piece of content  
and alternative content information showing the  
alternative piece of content.